AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A composition comprising an isolated immunostimulatory sequence (ISS), and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient wherein the ISS is less than about 200 nucleotides in length and comprises the formula:

5'-X_1 X_2 A X_3 C G X_4 T C G-3' (SEQ ID NO: 62)

wherein X_1 is T, G, C or Z, wherein Z is 5-bromocytosine;

wherein X_2 is T, G, A or U;

wherein X_3 is T, A or C;

wherein X_4 is T, G or U; and

wherein the ISS is not 5'-TGAACGTTCG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 63) or 5'-GGAACGTTCG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 64).

Claim 2 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS is selected from the group consisting of TGAACGUTCG (SEQ ID NO: 67), TGACCGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 68), TGATCGGTCG (SEQ ID NO: 69), TGATCGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 70), TGAACGGTCG (SEQ ID NO: 71), GTAACGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 72), GTATCGGTCG (SEQ ID NO: 73), GTACCGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 74), GAACCGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 75), ZGACCGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 76), wherein Z is 5-bromocytosine, CGAACGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 77), CGACCGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 78), ZGAACGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 79), wherein Z is 5-bromocytosine, TTAACGUTCG (SEQ ID NO: 80), TUAACGUTCG (SEQ ID NO: 81) and TTAACGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 82).

Claim 3 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 2, wherein the ISS is selected from the group consisting of TGAACGUTCG (SEQ ID NO: 67), GAACCGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 75) and CGAACGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 77).

Claim 4 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 3 comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19 and SEQ ID NO: 132.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): An immunomodulatory polynucleotide comprising an immunostimulatory sequence (ISS), wherein the ISS comprises the formula:

5'-X_1 X_2 A X_3 Z G X_4 T C G-3' (SEQ ID NO: 65)

wherein Z is 5-bromocytosine;

wherein X_1 is T, G, C or Z, wherein Z is 5-bromocytosine;

wherein X_2 is T, G, A or U;

wherein X_3 is T, A or C;

wherein X_4 is T, G or U; and

wherein the ISS is not 5'-TGAAZGTTCG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 66), wherein Z is 5-bromocytosine.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): An immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 5, wherein the ISS is selected from the group consisting of TGAAZGUTCG, (SEQ ID NO: 83) TGACZGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 84), TGATZGGTCG (SEQ ID NO: 85), GTATZGGTCG (SEQ ID NO: 86), GTACZGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 87), GAACZGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 88), GAAAZGUTCG (SEQ ID NO: 89), ZGACZGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 90), CGAAZGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 91), ZGAAZGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 92), ZGAAZGUTCG (SEQ ID NO: 93), TTAAZGUTCG (SEQ ID

NO: 94), TUAAZGUTCG (SEQ ID NO: 95) and TTAAZGTTCG (SEQ ID NO: 96), wherein Z is 5-bromocytosine.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): An immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 6, wherein the ISS is selected from the group consisting of ZGAAZGUTCG (SEQ ID NO: 93) and GAAAZGUTCG (SEQ ID NO: 89), wherein Z is 5-bromocytosine.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): An immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 7 comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 35 and SEQ ID NO: 36.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS further comprises at least one TCG sequence.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 9, wherein the TCG sequence is adjacent to the 5' end of the ISS.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS further comprises a TCGA sequence.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS further comprises at least one T, 5-bromocytosine, G sequence.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 12, wherein the T, 5-bromocytosine, G sequence is adjacent to the 5' end of the ISS.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS further comprises a T, 5-bromocytosine, G, A sequence.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS is less than about 150 bases or base pairs in length.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS is less than about 100 bases or base pairs in length.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS is less than about 50 bases or base pairs in length.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS is single-stranded.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS is double-stranded.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS is stabilized.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 20, wherein the ISS comprises a phosphorothioate bond.

Claims 22-23 (cancelled)

Claim 24 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1 further comprising an antigen.

Claim 25 (cancelled)

Claim 26 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the ISS is linked to a biodegradable microcarrier (MC), wherein said MC is less than 10 μm in size.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): An immunomodulatory polynucleotide/microcarrier (IMP/MC) complex, comprising:

a polynucleotide according to claim 5 linked to a biodegradable microcarrier (MC), wherein said MC is less than 10 μm in size.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): A method of modulating an immune response in an individual comprising administering to an individual an immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 1 or claim 5 in an amount sufficient to modulate an immune response in said individual.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The method of claim 28, wherein said individual suffers from a disorder associated with a Th2-type immune response.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The method of claim 29, wherein said disorder associated with a Th2-type immune response is an allergy or asthma.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): The method of claim 28, wherein said individual has an infectious disease.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): A method of increasing interferon-gamma (IFN-γ) in an individual, comprising:

administering an immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 1 or claim 5 to said individual in an amount sufficient to increase IFN-γ in said individual.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): The method of claim 32, wherein said individual has idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

Claim 34 (withdrawn): A method of increasing interferon-alpha (IFN-α) in an individual, comprising:

administering an immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 1 or claim 5 to said individual in an amount sufficient to increase IFN-α in said individual.

Claim 35 (withdrawn): The method of claim 34, wherein said individual has a viral infection.

Claim 36 (withdrawn): A method of increasing interferon-alpha (IFN-α) in an individual, comprising:

administering an immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 9 to said individual in an amount sufficient to increase IFN-α in said individual.

Claim 37 (withdrawn): The method of claim 35, wherein said individual has a viral infection.

Claim 38 (withdrawn): A method of increasing interferon-alpha (IFN-α) in an individual, comprising:

administering an immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 11 to said individual in an amount sufficient to increase IFN-α in said individual.

Claim 39 (withdrawn): The method of claim 38, wherein said individual has a viral infection.

Claim 40 (withdrawn): A method of ameliorating a symptom of an infectious disease in an individual, comprising:

administering an effective amount of an immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 1 or claim 5 to the individual, wherein an effective amount is an amount sufficient to ameliorate a symptom of said infectious disease.

Claim 41 (withdrawn): The method of claim 40, wherein said infectious disease is an infectious disease caused by a cellular pathogen.

Claim 42 (withdrawn): The method of claim 41, wherein said infectious disease caused by a cellular pathogen is selected from the group consisting of mycobacterial disease, malaria , leishmaniasis, toxoplasmosis, schistosomiasis and clonorchiasis.

Claim 43 (withdrawn): A method of ameliorating a symptom of an IgE-related disorder in an individual, comprising:

administering an effective amount of an immunomodulatory polynucleotide according to claim 1 or claim 5 to an individual having an IgE-related disorder, wherein an effective amount is an amount sufficient to ameliorate a symptom of said IgE-related disorder.

Claim 44 (withdrawn): The method of claim 43, wherein said IgE-related disorder is allergy.

Claim 45 (withdrawn): The method of claim 43, wherein said IgE-related disorder is an allergy-related disorder.

Claim 46 (withdrawn): The method of claim 43, wherein said IgE-related disorder is asthma.

Claim 47 (previously presented): A kit comprising a composition according to claim 1.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The kit of claim 47, further comprising instructions for use of the composition for immunostimulation of an individual.